

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-25 are now pending in the application. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicants' representative Bryant E. Wade in the telephonic interview held on August 14, 2003. In the telephonic interview, the term "vacant" was discussed with respect to the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, but no agreement was reached. Notwithstanding, Applicants believe that the presently pending claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments made above, and the following remarks.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2 and 4-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the writing description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges the phrase "vacant spaces" is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner further alleges that the Applicants may not rely on the drawings because the phrase "vacant spaces" is a negative limitation that cannot rely on an illustration for support, simply because it (the drawings) appears to show spaces

with no material. Although Applicants respectfully disagree with this position, Applicants elect to amend the claims.

More particularly, Applicants amended the claims to call for a plurality of “amoebiform spaces”. With respect to the term “amoebiform”, Applicants respectfully assert that this amendment is supported by the drawings in, for example, Figure 2. As the Examiner is aware, adequate support is judged from the viewpoint of one skilled in the art and may be provided through explicit, implicit, and/or inherent teachings. The term “amoebiform” may be defined as, “Resembling an amoeba; amoeba-shaped; and changing in shape like an amoeba.”. *Dictionary.com*. Giving this term its plain meaning, one skilled in the art would readily appreciate that the “spaces” described in the specification are “amoebiform”.

Further, Applicants respectfully assert that an applicant may show possession of an invention by disclosure of drawings. See, e.g., *Vas-Cath*, 935 F.2d at 1565, 19 USPQ2d at 1118 (“drawings alone may provide a ‘written description’ of an invention as required by Sec. 112”); *In re Wolfensperger*, 302 F.2d 950, 133 USPQ 537 (CCPA 1962) (the drawings of the applicant’s specification provided sufficient written descriptive support for the claim limitation at issue). More specifically, in relation to the above-referenced drawings, and in particular Figures 1 and 2, it can be seen that the ACF 32 has a plurality of amoebiform spaces 33. That is, the ACF 32 has a plurality of spaces that resemble an amoeba or are amoeba-shaped. Further, Applicants respectfully assert that one skilled in the art would readily appreciate that the phrase, “amoebiform spaces” is supported by the drawings as originally filed. As such,

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

With respect to claim 9, the term “vacant” has been deleted from the claim. None of the prior art of record, and particularly Takeshi, teaches, suggests, or provides motivation to employ the claimed method. That is, none of the cited references teach, suggest, or provide motivation to form a plurality of spaces that span from the semiconductor device to the substrate closely to each other within the bonding layer by decreasing a viscosity of a bonding material of the bonding layer to cause the bonding layer to flow outward from the semiconductor device, nor do the cited references teach, suggest, or provide motivation to absorb deformation of the semiconductor device or the substrate with the plurality of spaces.

Takeshi merely teaches that bubbles are produced from the adhesive when the adhesive is heated. Takeshi, however, does not teach that the spaces are formed by decreasing a viscosity of a bonding material to cause the bonding layer to flow outward from the semiconductor device, as claimed. As such, Takeshi does not anticipate nor render obvious the claimed method.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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amoebiform

\A*m[oe]"bi*form\, Amoeboid \A*m[oe]"boid\, a. [Am
[oe]ba + -form or -oid.] (Biol.) Resembling an am[oe]
ba; am[oe]ba-shaped; changing in shape like an am[oe]
ba.

Am[oe]boid movement, movement produced, as in the
am[oe]ba, by successive processes of prolongation and
retraction.

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